

A Vision Of Jesus And Mary

Blessed Angela of Foligno was one day, early in the morning, in the church saying her prayers, when she had a vision, which she herself relates in the following words: "I was rapt in spirit, and I beheld Our Blessed Lady enter the church. My soul was filled with intense joy when I saw her, but for a time I was afraid to go near her. But Our Lady, seeing my hesitation, held out to me the Holy Child Jesus, saying: O thou who lovest my Divine Son so much, come and take Him from me."

"She then placed Him in my arms. He seemed to be asleep, for His eyes were shut. Then she sat down as if she were fatigued after a long journey. She looked so lovely as she sat beside me that I could scarcely withdraw my eyes from her to look at her Holy Child whom I was pressing to my breast.

"At this moment Jesus opened His eyes and looked lovingly on me; this look filled my soul with so much joy that I would have died on the spot had He not sustained me by His divine power. He then said to me: I have come to you, and have presented Myself before you that you may offer yourself to Me. Immediately I did as He desired, and I knew that the offering was pleasing to Him."

In Holy Communion Jesus comes and places Himself, not on our arms nor on our breast, but in our very hearts, and becomes so closely united to us as to become one with us.

St. Philip On His Death-Bed

St. Philip Neri had a great love for Jesus in the Adorable Sacrament of the Altar, and his heart was always burning with the great desire he had of receiving Him into his soul.

When he was stretched on his death-bed, and the priest was bringing him the Holy Eucharist to be his Viaticum, he raised himself up on his bed, notwithstanding his weakness, and cried out with a clear and powerful voice: "O my Love, my Love, my Jesus, my God, come to me!"

A heavenly joy overspread his countenance as he received Him, for he felt that Heaven itself could give him no greater gift than the one he had just received God Himself; and he died in the embraces of Him he loved so much.

Catechism in Examples by Rev. D. Chisholm

Please Pray for Our Deceased Members

Jim Melies

Christ the King -- Omaha, NE

Robert Halfman

St. Matthias – Crown Point, IN

John B. "Cid" Secora

St. Mary Help of Christians -- Pueblo, CO

Dolores Laura Sanchez

Holy Family Parish -- Pueblo, CO

Antonio M. Castro

St. Paul the Apostle -- Pueblo, CO

Mary O. Vigil

St. Francis Xavier -- Pueblo, CO

Richard L. Carara

St. Paul the Apostle -- Pueblo, CO

Each month, a Mass is offered for deceased members listed in the monthly letter as above; and another Mass is offered for all past deceased members.

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My Dear Friend in Christ, Could you please help with the printing and mailing of these letters with a donation? Thank you. God bless you and Mary keep you.

Paul H. Monette

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Communion Thanksgiving: Jesus sits in our soul as on a throne of grace. St. Alphonsus di Liguori

NAS Letter
August
2023

... in His Presence

Union of the Soul with Jesus in Holy Communion

Love Tends to Union:

St. Dionysius the Areopagite says that the principal effect of love is to tend to union. For this very purpose did Jesus institute the Holy Communion, that He might unite Himself entirely to our souls. He had given Himself to us as Our master, Our example, and Our victim; it only remained for Him to give Himself to us as our food, that He might become one with us; as food becomes one with the person that eats it.

Last Degree of Love:

This He did by instituting this Sacrament of love: "The last degree of love" says St. Bernadine of Sienna "is when He gave Himself to us to be our food; because He gave Himself to be united with us in every way, as food and he who takes it is mutually united."

So that Jesus Christ was not satisfied with uniting Himself to our human nature; but He would, by this Sacrament, find a way of uniting Himself also to each one of us, so as to make Himself wholly one with him who

Please take and keep this letter and reflect on its contents during the month in your visits to the Blessed Sacrament and see that your heart and mind will open to His grace into knowledge and love of God, Our Lord, Jesus Christ.

receives Him.

Hence **St. Francis de Sales** writes: "In no other action can our Savior be considered more tender or more loving than in this, in which He, as it were, annihilates Himself, and reduces Himself to food, that He may penetrate our souls, and unite Himself to the hearts of His faithful."

That We Be One:

Because Jesus loved us ardently, He desired to unite Himself to us in the Holy Eucharist, in order that we might become the same thing with Him; thus writes **St. John Chrysostom**: "He mingled himself with us that we might be one; for this belongs to those who love greatly."

You wish, in short, O God of love, that our hearts and Yours form but one heart. "Thou wouldst that we should have one heart with Thee," said **St. Laurence Justinian**.

And Jesus Himself said this: He that eateth My flesh abideth in Me, and I in him. (John, vi. 57) **He, therefore, that communicates, abides in Jesus, and Jesus abides in him; and this union is not of mere affection, but it is a true and real union.**

As two wax tapers, when melted, says **St. Cyril of Alexandria**, unite themselves into one, so he that communicates becomes one with Jesus Christ. Let us, therefore, imagine, when we communicate, that Jesus Christ says to us that which He said one day to His beloved servant, **Margaret of Ypres**: "Behold, O my daughter, the beautiful union between Me and thee; come, then, love Me, and let us remain constantly united in love, and never more be separated."

--- Affections and Prayers ---

Never to Be Separated: O my Jesus, this is what I seek of Thee, and what I will always seek for from Thee in the Holy Communion: "Let us be always united, and never more be separated." I know that Thou wilt not

separate Thyself from me, if I do not first separate myself from Thee.

O my blessed Redeemer: "Suffer me not to be separated from Thee." As long as I am alive, I am in danger of this; oh, through the merits of Thy death, I beseech Thee let me die, rather than repeat this great injury against Thee. I repeat it, and pray Thee to grant me Thy grace always to repeat: "Suffer me not to be separated from Thee"

Love Jesus Only: O God of my soul, I love Thee; I love Thee, and will always love Thee, and will love Thee alone. I protest before heaven and earth that I desire Thee alone, and nothing but Thee. O my Jesus, hear me; I desire Thee alone, and nothing but Thee.

Mary, My Mother: Mary, Mother of mercy, pray for me now; and obtain for me the grace never more to separate myself from Jesus, and to love only Jesus.

Loving Aspiration before Communion

"Let my beloved come into His garden, and eat the fruit of His apple-trees." Cant. V. 1.

Cornelius a Lapide says that this is precisely the invitation that a soul desirous of the Holy Communion makes to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Come, my beloved, she says, into my poor heart, which at one unhappy time did not belong to Thee; but which now, by the help of Thy grace, has returned to Thee: Come and eat the fruit of Thy apple-trees. Come and taste in me those virtues which Thou dost bring with Thyself when Thou comest to me. O my Lord, at least for the honor of Thy majesty, purify my heart, adorn it, inflame it with Thy love, and make it beautiful in Thy sight, that it may be a worthy dwelling-place for Thee.

The Holy Eucharist by St. Alphonsus Liguori

United With Jesus Every Moment

I often feel God's presence after Holy Communion in a special and tangible way. I know God is in my heart. And the fact that I feel Him in my heart does not interfere with my duties. Even when I am dealing with very important matters which require attention, I do not lose the presence of God in my soul, and I am closely united with Him. With Him I go to work, with Him I go for recreation, with Him I suffer, with Him I rejoice; I live in Him and He in me. I am never alone, because He is my constant companion. He is present to me at every moment. Our intimacy is very close, through a union of blood and of life.

Diary by St. Maria "Faustina" Kowalska

The Union of The Soul With Jesus In Holy Communion

"Thanks be to Thee, O Thou Creator and Redeemer of men, Who, to manifest to the whole world Thy love, hast prepared a great supper, wherein Thou hast set before us to be eaten, not the typical lamb, but Thy most sacred Body and Blood, rejoicing all the faithful with Thy holy banquet, and inebriating them with the chalice of salvation, in which are all the delights of Paradise."

A Pious Young Lady's Consolation

"Oh, what a happiness it is to think." said a pious young lady to one of her companions, "that every time I go to Holy Communion I have Jesus Christ Himself in my heart. I have within me at that moment that very God Who, in Heaven, is the Joy of the Blessed. And is it not a consolation to think that He is more anxious to unite Himself to me than I can be to unite myself to Him? Oh, then, let us always seek to be with Him, since it is His most ardent desire. With Him in our souls, we shall very easily overcome temptations; we shall easily obtain eternal life in Heaven."